

Message Text

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DISTO

FOLLOWING REPEAT NEW DELHI 6601 ACTION DEPT LONDON BOMBAY
MADRAS MAY 18TH

QUOTE

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6601

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

IN REPLY TO NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS AT DELHI AIRPORT, WHERE SHE
WENT THIS AFTERNOON TO RECEIVE PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF SENEGAL,
PRIME MINISTER GANDHI WAS REPORTED, ACCORDING TO THE PTI
(PRESS TRUST OF INDIA) WIRE SERVICE, TO HAVE REAFFIRMED
INDIA'S FIRM COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY."
PTI'S REPORT OF THE AIRPORT PRESS QUERIES CONTINUES: "THE
EXPLOSION WAS A RESULT OF INDIA'S NORMAL NUCLEAR RESEARCH
AND STUDY, MRS. GANDHI SAID IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION...
MRS. GANDHI, WHO APPEARED CHEERFUL, TOLD ANOTHER QUESTIONER
THAT THE EXPLOSION WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE DEVELOPMENT
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OF SCIENCE IN INDIA. ASKED IF THE EXPLOSION WOULD RAISE

INDIA'S PRESTIGE AMONG THE DEVELOPING NATIONS,. THE PRIME
MINISTER REPLIED, " I NEVER BOTHER ABOUT PRESTIGE." SHE
SAID, "IIT IS NOTHING TO GET EXCITED ABOUT. WE ARE FIRMLY
COMMITTED ONLY TO THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY."
END OF PTI ITEM.
SCHNEIDER UNQUOTE RUSH

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